

Tailor: N.C. July 9 1863.

My dear darling wife,

The last three days we have been in a complete state of variability, now up, now down, now excited, now calm. Monday night, as I wrote you, I was up all night on the look-out for Ganksee raiders. On Tuesday we received intelligence that the Ganksees had returned to their gunboats; yet that night our Militia commander sent out scouts on the various roads and I took occasion to recover my lost sleep. Yesterday, a Regt. of Genl Colquitt's Brigade came down & the militia were out in full force. With the mail came also the glorious news from Pennsylvania; and from dejection we were elevated to a real glorification state. A band of music discoursed most eloquently of joy & hope and "all went merry as a marriage bell." Yesterday evening the Regt. from Colquitt's Brig. started for Goldsboro; - when about half way to Rocky Mount one of the axles broke and 13 were injured - three badly. A Capt. is now seriously ill from internal injury & one of the soldiers will have his leg amputated to day. Last night the news came a

little muddy and we were nothing like so much
elated. This morning, we have sifted it and al-
though there is a rumor that Picksburg has fallen
we don't believe it and are still in high hopes.

I feel very anxious about Ed. We have heard from
Dora up to the 4th. He was then safe & it gives us
hope for the 5th.

Yesterday morning, Mr. Parlow and Miss Mar-
garet Bell were married & went South on a marriage
tour. I don't know how far. I feel sorry for them.
It was postponed because his first wife's troubles
arrived the day they were to be married.

All are well now at home. Pater received
your letter & appreciated it.

I was very glad to hear that you were getting on
well. I hope & pray for you, that all may go well.
Although we can see but little through the mist of
the present, I still fondly cherish a dream of
home, wife &c. God grant we may yet be blessed
with a little of domestic comfort. I was very
glad to have been here during the late excitement
to cheer the despondency of mother & the family.
All send love. Give my love to Lellie Ma & family.
A thousand kisses. Your husband